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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/810,609

03/19/2001

Kunihiro Yamada

108841

8805

25944

7590

03/05/2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KIMBINH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2671

DATE MAILED: 03/05/2004

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/810,609

Applicant(s)

YAMADA ET AL.

Examiner

Kimbinh T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida (5,204,817) in view of Ando (5,925,091).

Claim 1, Yoshida discloses storing polygon map data (stores map data of polygons defined by roads; col. 1, lines 66-67); drawing a polygon map by reading the polygon map data from the memory (col. 8, lines 22-29); Yoshida does not teach drawing a polygon map which is equipped a unit map; however, Ando teaches displaying an output, wherein the drawing is equipped with a function for determining a unit of a polygon map (unit of map data) that should be drawn and draws a polygon map of the determined unit to distinguish between unit levels (level larger or smaller; col. 4, lines 24-67). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a method for drawing a map in which the scale of a displayed map is distinguished between of levels taught by Ando into the polygon map data of Yoshida's teaching for displaying map information, because it would improve

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vehicle navigation system to display a map data at different unit levels, the system would perform map enlargement or reduction on the basis of map data (col. 4, lines 55-62). Further, **Claim 3**, Ando discloses determining a vehicle present position or a cursor present position and only polygon map data, including the detected present position is read from memory and drawn (col. 4, lines 3-23). **Claim 4**, Ando discloses a different number of coordinates (the ranges of the longitude and latitude coordinates of one unit map data; col. 4, lines 26-30) in a one to one correspondence with display scales for a corresponding polygon unit and reads the polygon map data corresponding to the input display scale and draws a polygon map (col. 4, lines 26-54). **Claim 5**, Ando teaches the number of coordinates in the polygon map data becomes smaller as the area becomes larger (col. 2, lines 43-46; col. 4, lines 55-62). **Claims 6 and 7**, Ando teaches display storing polygon map data on the basis of each polygon unit and drawing a polygon map corresponding with a display scale input by reading the polygon map data (col. 4, line 24 through col. 5, line 7). **Claim 13**, Ando discloses drawing a polygon map that included in the range of display (the ranges of the absolute longitude and latitude coordinates) and of the largest unit (exceeds the limit of the map image in the RAM; col. 4, line 2 through col. 5, line 7).

Claims 8-12, the rationale provided in the rejection of claims 2-6 is incorporated herein.

Claim 2, Yoshida discloses reading polygon map data within the predetermined range (predetermined allowable range; col. 7, lines 61-62), including the range of

display, display patterns of adjoining polygon maps which are drawn different from each other (col. 7, lines 60-65; figs. 23, 24 and 25).

Claim 16, the rationale provide in the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein. In addition, Yoshida discloses a computer readable memory medium (col. 1, lines 10-14).

Claim 17, Yoshida discloses storing polygon map data (stores map data of polygons defined by roads; col. 1, lines 66-67); Yoshida does not teach unit levels; however, Ando teaches reading the stored polygon map data, (reading out predetermined map information from the CD-ROM 4; col. 4, lines 7-9), determining a unit of a polygon map (unit of map data) that should be displayed and displaying a polygon map to distinguish between unit levels (map data at a map scale one level larger or smaller; col. 4, lines 30-62). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a method for drawing a map in which the scale of a displayed map is distinguished between of levels taught by Ando into the polygon map data of Yoshida's teaching for displaying map information, because it would improve vehicle navigation system to display a map data at different unit levels, the system would perform map enlargement or reduction on the basis of map data (col. 4, lines 55-62).

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Kimbinh Nguyen** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-9683**. The examiner can normally be reached **(Monday- Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM and alternate Fridays from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM)**.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman, can be reached at (703) 305-9798.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Part II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

March 3, 2004



Kimbinh Nguyen

Patent Examiner AU 2671